

## **Media Release**

Wednesday, March 27, 2008  
For Immediate Release –

### **Keys to a New Life for Victims of Domestic Violence**

*Grand Rapids, MI*– Victims of Domestic Violence all across the state of Michigan will be receiving a set of keys to cars to help them get a fresh start...An escape from the violence! Local Auto Value and Bumper To Bumper Certified Automotive Service Centers in cities and towns throughout Michigan have banded together for one very worthwhile cause, to help victims of domestic violence in their home towns with the final thing they need to start their new lives – reliable transportation! These repair shops are donating their labor, as well as the necessary replacement parts, to refurbish automobiles sorely needed by victims who have escaped a domestic abuse environment and now need financial help in the form of basic, reliable transportation – but cannot afford to provide it themselves. The group of over 60 shop owners have joined forces with the Original 1-800 Charity Cars organization (Charity Cars, Inc. a 501-C-3 Non-profit charity, FED ID #59-3362703) in a huge project now underway; they are actively seeking, securing, and refurbishing these vehicles, to be given away to 35 qualified recipients at a grand award ceremony to be held at **3:00 pm, March 29, 2008 at the DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI.**

Estimates of the total value of the gifts in Michigan are in excess of \$200,000. The Auto Value Bumper to Bumper Charity Cars Campaign is a local effort tied to a national campaign. In addition, shops are helping with car seats, fuel gift cards and tires. There are literally hundreds of companies that are participating in this event!

Cars are still needed to refurbish. It's not too late. Anyone interested can call 1-800 Charity (1.800.242.7489) and mention the Auto Value Bumper To Bumper program. Donors are still eligible for income tax deductions based on the disposition of their vehicle donation.

The freedom of transportation is the final piece missing for the victims and allows them to get their children to school, to appointments and to their place of employment. Numerous dignitaries from across the state of Michigan including **Senator Mark Jansen** and Grand Rapids **2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Commissioner Rosalynn Bliss** will be in attendance to witness the culmination of the largest vehicle donation of its kind.

For more information, or to donate a vehicle to this project, please contact:

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